

40 Years



**New Jersey  
Meadowlands  
Commission**

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# **NJMC NEWS RELEASE**

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## **NJMC/Rutgers-Newark Research Partnership Enters Fifth Year**

**LYNDHURST, N.J.** – The New Jersey Meadowland Commission (NJMC) will enter the fifth year of its partnership with the Rutgers-Newark University Research Fellow program this month, a relationship which has played an important role in the environmental renaissance of the Meadowlands. The NJMC will formally renew the yearly program at its meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 25 at the Meadowlands Environment Center in DeKorte Park.

“Professors and graduate students from Rutgers-Newark play a critical role in NJMC scientific research that has resulted in a greater understanding of the environment in the Meadowlands,” said Joseph Doria, Chairman of the NJMC and Commissioner of the state Department of Community Affairs. “The data gathered in these studies has allowed the NJMC to better monitor and maintain a healthy ecosystem that few would have thought possible even 10 to 15 years ago.”

Research fellows have participated in many important studies conducted by the Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute (MERI), the science and technology arm of the NJMC. These include recent studies that showed an increase in the Meadowlands bird and fish populations, and improvements in water quality in the Hackensack River.

The graduate students help gather and process samples, and perform data analysis and image sampling. The fellowship program also gives the NJMC access to sophisticated scientific instruments and technology that are only available at large research institutions. MERI has examined Meadowlands marshes using state-of-the-art, high-resolution geophysical imaging technologies provided by Rutgers-Newark.

“The Rutgers-Newark Fellow program greatly expands the scope of the Commission’s research, allowing us to conduct more expansive and complex studies than would otherwise be possible,” said Robert Ceberio, Executive Director of the NJMC. “We look forward to many more years of fruitful work with Rutgers-Newark and the continued environmental restoration of the Meadowlands.”

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